



## CATAWBA COUNTY

P.O. Box 389 100-A South West Boulevard Newton, North Carolina 28658-0389  
[www.catawbacountync.gov](http://www.catawbacountync.gov)

Telephone: 828-465-8201  
Fax: 828-465-8392

March 9, 2011

### CATAWBA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES URGES CAUTION IN TODAY'S RAIN

Catawba County is expecting 3 to 5 inches of rain on March 9 and 10, on top of already saturated ground from last weekend's rainfall. This means today's rain will run quickly into area rivers and streams. Some local lake and river areas are already showing signs of flooding. Local residents need to use caution and be aware of the conditions in their area throughout the next few days. Flood waters can rise rapidly and people's safety is the number one priority.

"Catawba County Emergency Services has been closely monitoring lake and river levels, watching local flood prone areas and talking with partners such as Duke Energy and the National Weather Service to stay on top of the changing conditions," said Karyn Yaussy, the County's Emergency Management Coordinator. "Should lake or river levels threaten resident safety, the Emergency Services staff will be using the Community Alert System to notify residents of dangerous conditions and the need to evacuate from the flood. They will also be working with local fire and rescue departments to ensure residents get safely to higher ground should the need arise."

People in flood prone areas of the county need to take emergency preparedness measures now including sharing this information with family and neighbors, moving vehicles out of the flood area and gathering medications and important documents to take with them should they need to evacuate. People should never drive or walk across flooded roadways and should stay away from swift moving water, downed power lines and poles.

Catawba County residents may register for the Community Alert System messages online at <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/alert> Official emergency news and preparedness information is posted on Twitter @CatCoEM and through the county Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/catawbacountync>.